



# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

May – 2004 Volume 4, Issue 5

Office of Local and Rural Health



Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

Kathleen Sebelius, Governor

## 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL KANSAS PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING CONFERENCE



The Annual Public Health Nursing Conference was held April 12-14 at the Wichita Airport Hilton Hotel. Participants enjoyed the variety of breakout sessions and the entertainment and fun that was mixed in. Here are some of the comments we received:

- Very diverse breakout sessions – something for everyone.
- The conference, as a whole, was wonderful – To have a conference run this smoothly, a lot of work was put in to it – I'm looking forward to next year.
- This type of training/workshop has been **so needed!** Thank you!

We are planning next year's conference equally successful. Many of you offered suggestions to improve the conference, such as making the breakout sessions longer, and the keynote sessions shorter, or fewer. We also received several good suggestions for topics. If you have more topics you think would be of interest, or if you would like to be part of the planning process for next year's conference, please contact



Keynote Speaker  
Kaye Bender

## WHAT'S INSIDE

ANNUAL KANSAS PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING CONFERENCE.....	1
KS-TRAIN LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS LAUNCHED .....	2
KANSAS CHAUTAUQUA INFORMATICS PROJECT.....	2
REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEETINGS .....	3
PERSONNEL UPDATES.....	3
NEWS BRIEFS.....	4
Benefits of PHClinic.....	4
Waste Consumer Electronics? .....	5
Nurse Shortage Can Be Hazardous to Health .....	5
Trials of Acambis Smallpox Vaccine Suspended.....	6
Free Online Catalog .....	6
Affordable Spanish Interpreting .....	7
Comprehensive Plan for Early Childhood Services in Kansas..	7
CONFERENCES .....	7
Maternal and Child Health Leadership Conference.....	7
Public Health International Conference.....	8
NACCHO Annual 2004 Conference .....	8
BILLING WORKSHOPS.....	8
BAG Meeting .....	8
NE Regional Billing Workshop .....	9
TRAINING .....	9
Satellite Downlinks Program .....	9
Medical Interpreter Training .....	9
Cultural Competency Training .....	9
GENERAL WORKSHOPS .....	10
Public Health Training Network.....	10
Nursing Education.....	11
Other Continuing Education Online .....	11
Public Health Workforce Competencies.....	11
INTERPRETER SERVICE SURVEY.....	12
LOCAL HEALTH SECTION .....	13

Linda Frazier at 785-296-3641 or

[lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us).

If you were unable to attend the conference, you can order tapes or CD's of any of the sessions, or a set of the whole conference with your BT education grant dollars or KHF education grant dollars. To order tapes, contact Jerry or Virginia Florian at: Florian Audio Visual, 811 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Wilson, Kansas, 67490, Ph: 1-800-783-2379 Fax: 785-658-2375 e-mail: [florian@wtciweb.com](mailto:florian@wtciweb.com).

We will be posting presentation handouts from the sessions on the web at:

[http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/olrh/local\\_health.html](http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/olrh/local_health.html).

A photo album of pictures from the conference is also available at [http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/olrh/download/PHConference\\_Scrapbook.pdf](http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/olrh/download/PHConference_Scrapbook.pdf)

### KS-TRAIN LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS LAUNCHED



Prepared. On track. Online.

KS-TRAIN, <http://ks.train.org>, left the station at the 1<sup>st</sup> Kansas Public Health Nursing Conference held in Wichita. It is time to board the KS-TRAIN learning management system to improve public health workforce competencies and access to Kansas and national public health education sources.

The TrainingFinder Real-time Affiliate Integrated Network, or TRAIN, is the nation's premier learning resource for professionals who protect the public's health. KS-TRAIN is comprised of the national <http://www.train.org> site and will have additional training added by Kansas partners, including KDHE, AHECs, KU School of Medicine, KALHD, KUMC, and others. When completed, TRAIN will serve the majority of the U.S. public health workforce. TRAIN is a project of the Public Health Foundation with a grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and funding from participating states and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Because all TRAIN sites are connected, KS-TRAIN users can access information about state, local, national, or international training available to them through any participating TRAIN site.

Learners can use KS-TRAIN to:

- Search or browse the nationwide database for on-site or distance learning courses
- Sign up for e-mails about new courses
- Create a personal learning record of competency-based training
- Provide and view feedback about courses listed on the site
- Register online for many courses

#### **Training Providers can use KS-TRAIN to:**

- Efficiently publicize courses to thousands of TRAIN users through multiple web sites – enter course information once (not dozens of times) and it automatically goes to all participating TRAIN sites
- Manage online registration and student rosters
- Collect feedback from learners online
- Post course materials and discussion topics

The KS-TRAIN site at <http://ks.train.org> is now open to the public for registration. A training CD is available for each local health department to aid in registration. Many participants gained access to these CD's at the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Public Health Nursing Conference. The remaining county health departments will receive their copy soon in the mail. Kansas educational offerings are not currently on the site, but will be in the near future. Registered users can search the directory and pursue a number of educational offerings available through multiple types of media. Please take time to register today. Get on board the KS-TRAIN! For further information, contact the KS-TRAIN Administrator, Linda Frazier, Public Health Workforce Development Coordinator, at 785-296-3641, or e-mail: [lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us).

### KANSAS CHAUTAUQUA INFORMATICS PROJECT



The Kansas Chautauqua Informatics Project (Chautauqua) lifted off April 15th and 16th at the Lyon County Health Department. Julie Oler-Manske, Manager, and Susan Popejoy, Informatics Trainer, both from the KU School of Medicine-Wichita, conducted training on Microsoft



Outlook, Word and Excel. The Project mission is to assist public health workers to improve their computer skills for the enhancement of public health in Kansas. Three pilot sites are in process, which include, Lyon, and Sedgwick Counties, and the NW Kansas Bioterrorism Region. The informatics training will be conducted in Oberlin, KS on May 6-7 for the NW Kansas Region. The project is presented by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, KU School of Medicine-Wichita, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, Kansas Health Foundation, and Heartland Centers for Public Health Workforce Development. To learn more about Chautauqua please contact Julie Oler-Manske at 316-293-2626 or e-mail: [jolerman@kumc.edu](mailto:jolerman@kumc.edu).

## National Nurses Week

It's time to start planning for National Nurses Week 2004! A Promotion and Publicity kit is available to help you get started with an array of great ideas for publicity and recognition of your indispensable nurses. There is no better time of year to

show nurses how much you appreciate their contributions to patients and your institution. This kit will help you to create positive events that make your nurses' proud and your organization visible. Please join in this national celebration, at the state or district level.

The packet contains:

- History of National Nurses Week
- Suggestions on How to Celebrate National Nurses Week
- Tips for Having National Nurses Week Officially Recognized by Your State or Community
- National Nurses Week Sample Gubernatorial/Mayoral Proclamation
- National Nurses Week Sample Press Release
- National Nurses Week FACTS
- National Nurses Week KANSAS FACTS
- The Florence Nightingale Pledge

## ***NATIONAL NURSES WEEK MAY 6 - 12, 2004***



For more information contact Jennifer White, Director of Communications, Kansas State Nurses Association, 785-233-8638. The promotional packet for National Nurses Week is located at <http://www.nursingworld.org/pressrel/nnw/>.

### **REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEETINGS 2004 Schedule**

**Central Region:** Meetings are held at the Reno County Health Department from 10a.m. – 3p.m. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates are:

May 26  
July 28  
September 22  
November - Date to be announced

**North Central Region:** Meetings are held from 9a.m.-3p.m. Please contact Debbie Whitmer, 785-827-9639, if you have any questions. Dates and locations are:

June 22	Ellsworth
August 24	Belleville
October 26	Lincoln
December 7	Abilene

**Northeast Region:** Meetings are held at the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Azure Conference 4th Floor, Topeka, from 10a.m.-3p.m. Please contact Anita Hodge, 785-368-8110, or Jon Anderson, 620-431-2390, if you have any questions. Dates are:

June 10  
September 9  
December 9

**Northwest Region:** Meetings are held from 10a.m.-3p.m. at the NW Educational Service Center in Oakley. Please contact Debbie Whitmer, 785-827-9639, if you have any questions. Dates are:

June 10  
August 12  
October 14  
December 9

**Southeast Region:** Meetings are held from 10a.m.-3p.m. at the Holiday Park Motel, 3030 S. Santa Fe, Chanute. Please contact Jon Anderson at 620-431-2390 if you have any questions. Dates are:

May 6  
August 5  
November 4

**Southwest Region:** Meetings are held from 9a.m.-3p.m. in Garden City. Location to be announced. Dates are:

May 21  
July 16  
September 17  
November 19

### **PERSONNEL UPDATES**

**Martha Brown, RN, BA** - is the new administrator of Seward County Health Department in Liberal. Martha earned her BA in University Studies from the University of New Mexico and her nursing degree from Seward County Community College. She has worked previously in the acute care setting at Southwest Medical Center, and occupational health at the National Beef Packing Plant.

**Sherry Houston, BA** - began working as the administrator of Harper County Health Department on March 2, 2004. Sherry is a Kansas native, raised in Sumner County, and moved to Anthony in August

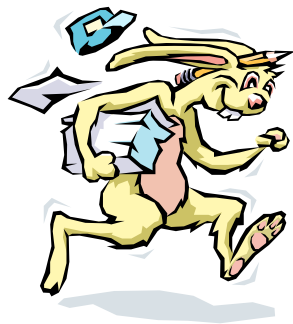
of 1976. She graduated from Wichita State University in 1989 with her Bachelor of Arts degree in social work and a minor in psychology. She has worked for SRS in Adult Services, managing in-home services for a three county area, and Hospice Incorporated of Wichita for four years, providing direct care social work services to families in a four county area. Sherry has a long working relationship with the Harper County Health Department and many of the community agencies. Sherry and her husband Kenny, have one daughter, Jennifer, and one son, Sam.

**Jan Moffitt, RN, BSN** - has resigned as administrator of the Marion County Health Department effective May 20th. Jan has been employed at the health department since October 1999. Jan has accepted a position as Chief Nursing Officer with Saint Luke Hospital in Marion.

**Debbie Nickels, RNC, BSN** - has joined the KDHE OLRH staff as a Public Health Educator special projects. Debbie will be working with the Kansas Chautauqua Informatics Project and the KS-TRAIN Learning Management System. Debbie has several years experience as the administrator of the Jefferson County Health Dept. She recently worked with KALHD to bring HIPAA training to the local health departments of Kansas. We are excited to have Debbie join our workforce development team!

**Teresa K. Starr** - is the new administrator of Neosho County Health Department. Teresa had worked in the office of the health department for two and a half years prior to her new duties. She attended Neosho Community College.

**Jane Sunderland, RN** - has accepted the position of administrator at Nemaha County Community Health Services (NCCHS), replacing Patricia Remmers. This change was effective April 1, 2004. Jane has been with NCCHS as a staff nurse for the past five years. Previously, she had been a school nurse for the Sabetha school district for nine years. Other nursing experience includes working in a neonatal intensive care unit for three years. She is a graduate of the University of Kansas School of Nursing. Jane and her husband, Robert, have three children ages ten, eight, and four. They currently reside in Sabetha.



## NEWS BRIEFS

### Benefits of PHClinic

by Pete Kitch



One of the benefits of having so many health departments using PHClinic is that the investment in new modules and functionality can benefit multiple health departments. A good example of that is the recently completed module linking PHClinic to the KDHE Division of Health and Environmental Laboratories. The module is now in production at the Reno County Health Department and seems to be working well.

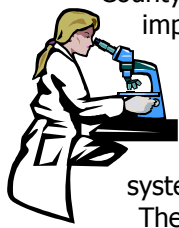
The module enables the health departments to enter the test request information for each DHCL test into PHClinic and at the end of the day create an electronic package containing all the physical specimens and tests requested. A "packing list" is created and put in the physical package containing all the specimens for the day that is picked up by the courier for overnight delivery to DHCL. The electronic test request file is then sent to DHCL. The next morning, following courier delivery, DHCL scans the specimen package label ID which brings up all the associated specimens and test requests on their Laboratory Information Management system screen. Upon verification of the specimen package contents, the test requests are assigned to the appropriate laboratory sections and the corresponding specimens distributed. Once the tests are completed and test results entered into the lab system, it creates an electronic test result file that is then electronically "picked up" by the health department and automatically recorded in PHClinic for each client. Hard copy lab reports can be printed out at the health department for insertion in the medical chart if desired. This procedure saves as much as three days in the turn around time between the date of the client encounter and the return of the test results to the health department, as well as creating a tracking mechanism for each test and associated specimen submitted to DHCL.

Over the next few months KIPHS, Inc. and DHCL will be implementing the laboratory module at other PHClinic sites around the state. Training sessions will be held in a number of locations, followed immediately by start up in the trained departments. Hopefully all PHClinic sites across the state will be able to utilize the interface by the end of the summer.

This has been a cooperative development effort between KIPHS, Inc. and DHCL, with new pro-



programming required in both systems. Very few problems were found during testing and the interface was put into production with only minor hitches over the first week or two of usage. The Reno



County Health Department was a great implementation partner and we appreciated the department's willingness to be the first user and help us work out the inevitable initial "kinks" in the two software systems.

The success of the DHEL interface opens the door for other similar interfaces between health departments and KDHE that will continue to significantly improve overall system efficiencies in both organizations.

### What Should We Do With Our Waste Consumer Electronics?

*by Bill Bider,*

*Director, Bureau of Waste Management*

All across our nation, people are wondering what they should be doing with old computers and other electronic devices. Laws are being made in some states establishing mandatory recycling programs and landfill bans. Proponents of such legislative measures often use fear tactics to gain support for their restrictive proposals claiming computers contain toxic heavy metals, such as lead, that will contaminate our water supplies if landfilled. The U.S. EPA appears to also be moving in that direction, at least with respect to business disposal practices, based upon some limited testing of such wastes by university researchers in Florida.



On the other side of the issue, the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) is leading the way arguing that the heavy metals in consumer electronics will not contribute to groundwater or air pollution if disposed of in modern lined and monitored landfills. A technical study performed by SWANA's Applied Research Foundation released on March 9<sup>th</sup> found that natural processes that occur in an MSW landfill effectively inhibit heavy metals from dissolving into leachate or from being released from the landfill in the form of gas.

In Kansas, KDHE would like to see as many computers recycled as possible, but mainly to conserve valuable landfill space. Consumer electronics are bulky items that have the potential to consume a major part of our landfill space over the next decade if we do not establish diversion programs. The

volume of such waste could increase dramatically over the next few years as analogue TVs are phased out and replaced by high-definition models. However, like SWANA, KDHE has few concerns regarding the environmental hazards associated with disposing of computers in landfills. We took this position well before SWANA released their study results.

In Kansas, we have considerable experience related to the migration of lead in the environment and have found that it does not significantly migrate through clay soils with low permeability. In some areas of southeast Kansas, lead levels in soils are very high, yet the lead has only migrated a short distance downward into the soil because it adheres to the soil particles.

At the present time, KDHE allows computers and other consumer electronics to go to permitted MSW landfills. Large shipments of such waste require special waste disposal authorizations granted by the Bureau of Waste Management in order to give the landfill owner an opportunity to accept or deny the waste. Single electronic units can be mixed in with other trash and sent to landfills by individuals or businesses. Even though this disposal flexibility is allowed, KDHE would prefer the diversion of these wastes into recycling programs.

Today, recycling of consumer electronics is not easy in Kansas; it takes effort to find a recycling outlet. City and county recycling programs have not become involved, so generators of such waste must make arrangements with specialty companies to take the waste and transport it to recycling markets. Some manufacturers have also implemented take back programs to help their customers recycle. If you would like information about how you can recycle your waste electronics rather than send them to a landfill, please contact the Bureau of Waste Management at (785) 296-1600.

Finally, new federal regulations could eliminate disposal flexibility, which we now allow in Kansas. It is KDHE's hope that recycling will increase because it is the right thing to do rather than because of federal mandates.

### Nurse Shortage Can Be Hazardous to Health Kaiser Daily Health Policy Report

*March 29, 2004*



The [AP/Kansas City Star](#) looked at the national nursing shortage and its impact on patient care. "Study after study" shows that staffing too few nurses can affect patients' health and sometimes cause

deaths, the *AP/Star* reports. [HHS](#) estimates today's shortage of "a few hundred thousand" registered nurses could increase to a shortage of 750,000 by 2020, according to the *AP/Star*. A shortage of nurses is a factor in one-fourth of patient injuries or deaths in hospitals, according to a 2002 report released by the [Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations](#). In addition, researchers at [Harvard](#) and [Vanderbilt](#) universities found preventable deaths and patient complication were up to nine times higher in hospitals where the most care was given by licensed practical nurses and aides, not RNs. Linda Aiken, director of the [Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research](#) at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, found in a 2002 survey of 168 hospitals that the risk of dying after surgery increased 7 percent for each patient over four patients assigned per nurse. According to the [Institute of Medicine](#), long hours and fatigue contribute to errors, and in late 2003 IOM called for a ban on nurses working more than 12-hour days. In 24 states, at least some form of staffing regulation has been instituted, and California has enacted the nation's first nurse-to-patient ratios. Some hospital officials cite financial pressures including technology costs, government cuts and insurance reimbursements as reasons for not hiring nurses, according to the *AP/Star*. However, corporate grants, scholarships and pay increases are expected to draw more students to nursing and bring former nurses back to the field (Johnson, *AP/Kansas City Star*, 3/29).



### **Trials of Acambis Smallpox Vaccine Suspended**

*by Jim Armitage*



Acambis, the Cambridge-based drug company that supplies the US government with smallpox vaccines to protect the population against biological attack, today suspended trials of the vaccine after finding serious side-effects among some volunteers. With the U.S. on high terrorist alert, it fast-tracked orders for 209 million doses of the vaccine from Acambis before it had been fully tested. Now, intense monitoring has discovered that some of those who participated in the trials suffered a major heart condition. The drug has not been given to anybody outside the trials.

Acambis, headed by chief executive Gordon Cameron, is one of many drug companies attempting to make a safer version of the only licensed existing vaccine, Dryvax, which has been used for

generations. Despite its efficacy, Dryvax's manufacture, prepared from lymph collected from lesions on calves' bellies, is seen as dated.

The company's Acam2000 is a chemically produced version of the vaccine given by injection. (The ACAM1000 vaccine, to which it is presumed ACAM2000 is related, is a live attenuated cell culture-produced vaccine derived from the Dryvax original - see below). Acambis was one of the companies that lost out in the bidding for the contract to provide vaccines for the United Kingdom. That deal was controversially won by PowderJect, whose founder Paul Drayson was a major Labour Party donor.

Smallpox was eradicated in 1971 after a worldwide Dryvax vaccination and quarantine program organized by the World Health Organisation. But the threat of the use of smallpox virus as a biological weapon by rogue states and terrorists has led most first-world governments to stock up on unlicensed vaccines to give to the public in the event of an attack. The military and front-line medical workers vaccinated since 9/11, considered most likely to come into contact with the disease, have been given Dryvax from old stock.

As part of its contract with the U.S., Acambis was required to submit the new vaccine to the normal trials required for other vaccines and to verify that it was as effective as Dryvax, its predecessor. The problems now appearing in the Phase III trials were anticipated, because heart conditions had been noticed in previous Dryvax vaccination programs. It is unclear whether the findings reported today are attributable to the intensive monitoring now being conducted into Acam2000 or the product itself.

### **Free Online Catalog**



The Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) Public Health Preparedness Resource Center (PHPRC) and Academic Center for Public Health preparedness (A-CPHP) website at <http://preparedness.asph.org>.

The PHPRC is a free online catalog of courses and training activities, degree and certificate programs, events and many other products developed by ASPH member schools of public health and the A-CPHPs. This information is intended for both public health professionals to assure information on trainings developed by schools of public health are accessible to the public health workforce and for course developers to ensure that best practices are shared, thereby minimizing duplication of efforts. Areas of focus are bioterrorism, emergency preparedness, and other public health threats and emer-

gencies. The PHPRC has been redesigned for better user-ability, including more search categories, highly defined searches, and active links.

### **Affordable Spanish Interpreting**

Propio Spanish Services has agreed to offer its services to health departments in Kansas at a reduced rate. Propio provides Spanish "Over-the-Phone" interpreting for less than half the cost of other companies such as Language Line. Several Kansas health departments including Wyandotte and Johnson County currently use Propio's services.



Propio charges a flat rate of \$0.99 per minute. This rate is good any time of day, 365 days a year. You pay only for the time you use the service, with a one-minute minimum charge per call. There is no monthly minimum charge. No prior scheduling is required to use Propio's services and you are usually connected to an interpreter in less than a minute. **To get set up for this service, call 1-888-804-2044, then press "0" for customer service.**

### **Comprehensive Plan for Early Childhood Services in Kansas**



Kansas state agencies, in partnership with professional organizations; community-based providers and families are working together to develop an integrated comprehensive plan for early childhood services. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has received a two-year planning grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration. The planning effort is called the *Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grant* (ECCS).

The goals for the ECCS grant are to assure leadership to the development of cross systems integration partnerships in support of early childhood (ages 0-8) practices in order to identify and address special needs, enhance children's health and to support early learning strategies for success in school; and to support state agencies and communities in their efforts to build early childhood service systems which address five key components.

The plan must address five key components of early childhood care, including:

- 1) Access to health insurance and a medical home
- 2) Early care and education/child care
- 3) Mental health and social-emotional development
- 4) Parent education
- 5) Family support

Work on this plan began in January 2003 when the Children's Cabinet initiated a strategic planning process during a two-day session. At this meeting, a group of 45 early childhood stakeholders from across Kansas convened to develop a vision and mission and identified strengths and weaknesses of the current systems.

The group's adopted vision is: *"All children and families have the possibility to access high quality, individualized support services. Multiple points of entry exist which provide a single, knowledgeable resource for coordination of service delivery. Communities have responsibility for the management of allocated funds and are held accountable to produce desired outcomes."*

In addition to the strategic planning process, work is continuing on the Kansas School Readiness Indicators Initiative. Members of this task force represent the Governor's Office, Kansas Action for Children, Head Start, Kansas Department of Education Student Support Services: Maternal and Child Health Director, and Child Care Administrator. These indicators will be built upon the ECCS strategic plan.

Persons interested in further information about this initiative can contact Tracy Wohl, project manager, 785-296-4536.

## **CONFERENCES**

### **Seventeenth Annual Maternal and Child Health Leadership Conference**

An invitation to multidisciplinary professionals responsible for MCH and related services in the Topeka/Shawnee County. Please join the MCH staff of the Shawnee County Health Agency to view the live webcast of the keynote and plenary sessions of the 17th Annual Maternal and Child Health Leadership Conference May 17-18.

This conference is designed by and for MCH professionals. The live web casts will be interactive via email question and answer sessions.

Below you will find times and a brief description of each session. You may pick and choose the



sessions you want to attend. On Monday May 17, lunch will be served at a cost of \$5. You must register for lunch. For complete conference information go to:

[http://www.uic.edu/sph/mch/ce/mch\\_leadershi](http://www.uic.edu/sph/mch/ce/mch_leadershi)  
[p](http://www.uic.edu/sph/mch/ce/mch_leadershi). For additional information contact Penny Selbee,  
[penny.selbee@co.shawnee.ks.us](mailto:penny.selbee@co.shawnee.ks.us). All sessions will  
 be in the Shawnee Health Agency Auditorium.

#### **Monday May 17, 2004**

- 8:15–10:00a.m. KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Making  
 Evaluation Useful
- 10:15–11:45a.m. SHAWNEE COUNTY Round Table  
 discussion – Topic to be  
 announced
- 11:45–1:30 p.m. PLENARY I: Support Programs  
 for Women During Pregnancy
- 3:30–5:00p.m. PLENARY II: Home Visitation:  
 Nurse and Para-Professional  
 Models

#### **Tuesday May 18, 2004**

- 10:00–11:30a.m. PLENARY III: Early Childhood  
 Intervention: Lessons from the  
 Chicago-Based Child-Parent  
 Center Program and Implications for  
 Public Health
- 1:00 – 2:30p.m. PLENARY IV: Sex and HIV/AIDS  
 Education Programs for Teens:  
 What Works, What Doesn't



### ***NATIONAL NURSES WEEK MAY 6 - 12, 2004***

#### **Public Health International Conference Washburn University**



"Promoting Global Health: Visions and Strategies" will be July 10-13 at Washburn University, Topeka. The international health conference will provide a forum to share strategies and innovations in public health through keynote speakers, concurrent sessions, symposia and poster presentations. The Washburn University School of Nursing, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and six other northeastern Kansas healthcare organizations host the conference.

For more information please contact Dr. Ellen Carson, Associate Dean, School of Nursing, Washburn University, 785-231-1010, ext. 1212, [ellen.carson@washburn.edu](mailto:ellen.carson@washburn.edu) or see our website:

<http://www.washburn.edu/nursing-conference>

#### **NACCHO Annual 2004 Conference and Exhibition**



National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), Annual 2004 Conference and Exhibition will be July 14-16 in St. Paul, Minnesota, at the Radisson Riverfront Hotel St. Paul. This year's theme "Sharing Our Potential: Competencies, Capacities, and Core Functions in Local Public Health" will identify and address the professional competencies and capacities required to successfully and energetically take local public health into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Innovative and effective local public health core activities, as well as new trends and advances in local public health, will be showcased. For more information please visit <http://www.naccho.org>.

#### **BILLING WORKSHOPS**

##### **BAG Meeting**

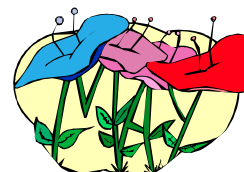


It is time again for the Northwest Billing Group to meet again. The next meeting will be at Colby from 9a.m.-3p.m. The meeting will be in the Thomas County Office Complex (same building where the Health Department is located), 350 S. Range in the conference room. To get to the complex from the Interstate take the McDonalds exit and go north, the complex is on the west side of the street approximately 1½ miles. You will go through two stoplights, if you get to the third stoplight you have gone too far. Enter the building through the east door and the conference room will be to your left. If you are coming into town from the east -- continue through town on Hwy 24 to the second stoplight (this will be Range Street -- also Hwy 25) turn left, go about 2½ blocks and the complex will be on your right. The complex is a one-story red brick building.

Lunch is on our own.

##### **Scheduled Speakers**

Mark Schulte - Medicaid Representative  
 Deb Meisenheimer – Blue Cross Blue Shield  
 Representative  
 Nicole Hill - Doral Dental





## NE Regional Billing Workshop

The next workshop of the NE Regional Billing group will be Thursday, May 6th from 9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon at the Curtis State Office Building, Azure Conference Room (4<sup>th</sup> Floor), 1000 SW Jackson, Topeka



### Agenda

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 9:00a.m.- 9:15a.m. | Introductions   |
| 9:15a.m.-11:15a.m. | Debra Meisenheimer, BCBS<br>Nicole Hill, Doral Dental<br>Marcia Tremonti, First Guard<br>EDS Representative |
| 11:15a.m.-12 Noon  | Workshop Group Discussion<br>Agenda for next meeting  |

## TRAINING

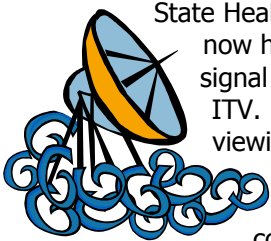
### Satellite Downlinks Program

We have started to downlink many programs at the State Health Department in Topeka and now have the capability to send the signal out to the District Offices via ITV. If you would be interested in viewing any satellite downlink programs at the area KDHE District Offices, please contact Linda Frazier for arrangements [lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us). Programs are also available to watch by webcast at your office computer.

The number of local health departments acquiring downlink dishes is growing. Immediately following the 9/11 attacks, some areas were without phone service and computer access. In those areas, they still reported the ability to access news and receive communication via satellite downlink. This is an item to consider for your local or regional bioterrorism grant funding.

If you do have a downlink dish at your local health department and you aren't listed below, please notify Linda Frazier, so she can keep a listing of current satellite downlink access.

Reno  
Barton  
Saline  
Franklin  
Johnson



## Medical Interpreter Training

*Scheduled for 2004*



Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Local and Rural Health, are sponsoring the two remaining medical interpreter-training sessions this coming year. Funding has been provided for these training sessions through the Heartland Centers for Public Health Workforce Development, Saint Louis University, School of Public Health, and the KDHE/CDC Bioterrorism Grant Training Fund.

### SW KANSAS

Western Plains Medical Complex  
Classroom located at the Annex Building (across from the hospital)  
108 Ross Blvd.  
Dodge City, KS 67801  
May 10-14 from 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m.

### SC KANSAS

University of Kansas School of Medicine - Wichita  
1010 N. Kansas, Santa Fe Room  
Wichita, KS 67214  
July 15-16 & 21-23 from 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m.

For more information/or registration please contact Elizabeth Kizzie at Jewish Vocational Service, 1608 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO 64108 or call 816-471-2808 ext. 142, e-mail address [ekizzie@jvskc.org](mailto:ekizzie@jvskc.org).

## Cultural Competency Training



Kansas Department of Health & Environment, Office of Local & Rural Health, will sponsor the remaining Cultural

Competency training session in Garden City. The KDHE/CDC Bioterrorism Grant Training Fund is funding the training sessions. Elizabeth Kizzie and Catherine Anderson are presenting the training sessions from Jewish Vocational Service in Kansas City. Health care providers serve more non-English or limited English-speaking clients each day. The two main barriers providers face are language and culture. The Cultural Competency training sessions will provide you an opportunity to learn how to effectively communicate with limited English-proficient clients, collaborate with families and coordinate services. The topics covered will include: Dimensions of Diversity, Working Effectively with Interpreters, and Building Culturally Competent Community Partnerships.



**GARDEN CITY**

June 16, &amp; 17, 2004

8:00a.m.-5:00p.m.

SRS Building

1710 Palace Drive

Garden City, KS 67846

For more information/or registration please contact Elizabeth Kizzie or Catherine Anderson at Jewish Vocational Service, 1608 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO 64108 at 816-471-2808, ext. 142 for Elizabeth and ext. 124 for Catherine. You may also e-mail Elizabeth, [ekizzie@jvskc.org](mailto:ekizzie@jvskc.org) and e-mail Catherine, [canders@jvskc.org](mailto:canders@jvskc.org).

**GENERAL WORKSHOPS**

Continuing Education of interest to PH Workforce is listed by the Kansas State Board of Nursing at: <http://www.ksbn.org>.

**Kansas Division of Emergency Management:**

<http://www.accesskansas.org/kdem/trainingnew.htm>



**Public Health Training  
Network Satellite  
Downlinks/Webcasts**

See PHTN website at [www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn](http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn) to view a complete list of satellite downlinks and webcasts. Call Linda Frazier, Distance Learning Coordinator at (785) 625-5663 if you need assistance.

<b>05/05/04</b> 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m. Rebroadcast 2:00p.m.-3:00p.m.	<b>Update on the Management of Hypertension</b>  For more information, call 1-888-967-2559 ext. 14 now to register your facility as a host site or register by e-mail at <a href="mailto:hypertensionclass@rockpointe.com">hypertensionclass@rockpointe.com</a> . <a href="#">View</a> flyer.
<b>05/05/04</b> 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.	ASTDHPPE Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL <b>Bridging Traditional Environmental Health and Health Promotion 22nd National Conference on Health Promotion and Education</b>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
<b>05/06/04</b> 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.	ASTDHPPE Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL <b>Transforming Vision to Reality: Potential Power of Partnership 22nd National Conference on Health Promotion and Education</b>

	<b>tion and Education</b>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
<b>05/07/04</b> 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.	ASTDHPPE Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL <b>Principles for Effective Communication of Health Risks 22nd National Conference on Health Promotion and Education</b>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
Rebroadcast <b>05/12/04</b> 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m.	<b>Update on the Management of Hypertension</b>  For more information, call 1-888-967-2559 ext. 14 now to register your facility as a host site or register by e-mail at <a href="mailto:hypertensionclass@rockpointe.com">hypertensionclass@rockpointe.com</a> . <a href="#">View</a> flyer.
<b>05/18/04</b> 2:00p.m.-4:00p.m.	<b>Diabetes and Cardiovascular Risk: Affecting Change in Communities to Increase Physical Activity</b>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
<b>05/20/04</b> 8:00-9:00a.m.	Third Thursday Breakfast Broadcasts (T2B2) presents: <b>Asthma in Children</b>  For more information, call 518-402-0330 or visit <a href="http://www.albany.edu/sph/coned/t2b2">http://www.albany.edu/sph/coned/t2b2</a>
<b>05/21/04</b> 1:00-2:00p.m.	Public Health Grand Round <b>Tobacco Prevention and Control</b>  <a href="#">View</a> course overview.
<b>05/26/04</b> 1:00p.m.-2:00p.m.	<b>Live Response WMD Update- Coordinating Local, State &amp; Federal Assets</b>  For more information, contact Ed Kronholm, at 877-820-0305 or visit: <a href="http://www.dlnets.com/ntpi_26May04.htm">http://www.dlnets.com/ntpi_26May04.htm</a>

**To Order Tapes/CD's:****Public Health Foundation Online Bookstore:**

<http://bookstore.phf.org/cat20.htm>

**CDC BT programs:**

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/training/index.asp>

## Nursing Education

Ft. Hays Nursing: <http://www.fhsu.edu/nursing>

KU has an on-line RN to BSN completion program:  
[http://www2.kumc.edu/son/vclassroom/rn\\_to\\_bsn.htm](http://www2.kumc.edu/son/vclassroom/rn_to_bsn.htm)

Washburn PHN Certification Program e-mail Dr. Janice Dunwell at: [zzdnwl@washburn.edu](mailto:zzdnwl@washburn.edu)

ANA's web site: <http://www.RNCE.org>

## Other Continuing Education Online

The WALD Center: <http://www.waldcenter.org>

The Public Health Training Network:  
<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn/default.asp>

KDHE/KALHD Training Calendars:  
<http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us>. Click on the calendar you wish to view.

Training Finder: Comprehensive database of distance learning course listings  
<http://www.trainingfinder.org>.

The MMWR Continuing Education Program:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr>

MPH Kansas: <http://mph.kumc.edu>.

National Library of Medicine  
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov>.

CDC BT Training  
<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/training/index.asp>

The Illinois Public Health Preparedness Center:  
<http://www.uic.edu/sph/prepare>

Heartland Center for Public Health Preparedness:  
<http://slu.edu/centers/heartland>

Centers for Public Health Preparedness:  
<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/owpp/CPHPLocations.asp>

Public Health Training Centers:  
<http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/publichealth/phtc.htm>

Other Public Health Workforce Development Centers:  
<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/owpp/resources.asp>

## Public Health Workforce Competencies

Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness Competencies for all Public Health Workers:  
<http://www.nursing.hs.columbia.edu/institute-centers/chphsr/btcomps.html>

Competencies Feedback Project by the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice.  
<http://www.trainingfinder.org/competencies/index.htm>

**INTERPRETER SERVICE SURVEY  
FOR LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS IN KANSAS**

Health Department District:    ( ) NC    ( ) NE    ( ) NW    ( ) SC    ( ) SE    ( ) SW

1. Other than English what language(s) are spoken in your county?
2. Since the last survey three years ago, what resources have your health department implemented to provide interpreter services to non-English/limited English speaking clients? (Please list all interpreter resources that you use).  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you use interpreters that are bilingual employees, bilingual community volunteers or have a contract in place with a telephone interpreter service?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Do you employ bilingual staff to assist with interpreting needs? \_\_\_\_\_
5. If you employ bilingual staff to provide interpreter services, do you compensate them for providing this service? \_\_\_\_\_
6. If you employ bilingual staff or use bilingual community volunteers to provide interpreter services have they been trained in interpreter skills, medical and social terminology, and interpreter code of ethics? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Have any of your bilingual staff or bilingual community volunteers attended the Medical Interpreter training sessions funded by Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)? \_\_\_\_\_. If so, how many have attended? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Have any of your staff attended the Cultural Competency training sessions funded by KDHE this year? \_\_\_\_\_. If so, how many have attended? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Do you plan to send any of your bilingual staff or bilingual community volunteers to the Medical Interpreter training sessions funded by KDHE this year or in the near future? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Do you plan to send any of your staff to the Cultural Competency training sessions funded by KDHE this year or in the near future? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Please list the culturally diverse populations that your local health department serves.  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Do you feel your health department is in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 - the ability to provide interpreter services to all non-English/limited English speaking clients at no charge and with systems in place to provide those services? \_\_\_\_\_. What challenges, obstacles or barriers have hindered your compliance efforts? \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for participating in this survey. Please send, fax or email your response to Anita Hodge, RN, MA, Public Health Nurse Specialist/Refugee Health Coordinator at KDHE, 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340, Topeka, KS 66612-1365, Fax: 785-296-1231, E-mail: [ahodge@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:ahodge@kdhe.state.ks.us)

March 2004



**Local Health Section  
Office of Local & Rural Health**

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<p>Linda Frazier PH Workforce Development Coordinator/DLC 2301 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Hays, KS 67601-2651 Office phone – 785-625-5663 Cell phone – 785-231-4504 Fax number – 785-625-4005 E-mail address – <a href="mailto:lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us">lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>	<p>Debbie Whitmer PH Nurse Specialist 2501-D Market Place Salina, KS 67401-7699 Office phone –785-827-9639 Cell phone – 785-452-5986 Fax number – 785-827-1544 Email address – <a href="mailto:dwhitmer@kdhe.state.ks.us">dwhitmer@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>
<p>Anita Hodge PH Nurse Specialist 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-368-8110 Cell phone – 785-231-4357 Fax number - 785-296-1231 E-mail address – <a href="mailto:ahodge@kdhe.state.ks.us">ahodge@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>	<p>Jon Anderson PH Nurse Specialist 1500 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Chanute, KS 66720-9701 Office phone – 620-431-2390 Cell phone 785-231-9828 Fax number – 620-431-1211 E-mail address – <a href="mailto:janderso@kdhe.state.ks.us">janderso@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Jerry Tenbrink Bioterrorism Training Specialist 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-291-3241 Fax number – 785-296-1231 E-mail address – <a href="mailto:jtenbrin@kdhe.state.ks.us">jtenbrin@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>	